

From: William Bishop
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:51am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Please reconsider the settlement; there are many loopholes that allow MS to continue their predatory practices.

One simple example:

Section III.A.2. allows Microsoft to retaliate against any OEM that ships Personal Computers containing a competing Operating System but no Microsoft operating system.

and

Section III.B. also allows Microsoft to offer unspecified Market Development Allowances -- in effect, discounts -- to OEMs. For instance, Microsoft could offer discounts on Windows to OEMs based on the number of copies of Microsoft Office or Pocket PC systems sold by that OEM. In effect, this allows Microsoft to leverage its monopoly on Intel-compatible operating systems to increase its market share in other areas, such as office software or ARM-compatible operating systems.

By allowing these types of practices, MS is being encouraged to extend its monopoly in Intel-compatible operating systems, and to leverage it into new areas.

MS has destroyed many good small businesses with their practices. Please help American small business!

Thank you,

William R. Bishop